



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jeffrey A. Anderson Art Unit : 3635
Serial No. : 10/633,694 Examiner : Jeanette E. Chapman
Filed : August 5, 2003
Title : METAL FRAMING MEMBER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

Mail Stop Amendment

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

DECLARATION OF JEFFREY A. ANDERSON UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

I, Jeffrey A. Anderson, declare:

1. I am an inventor of the subject matter described and claimed in the above-captioned patent application.

2. I have reviewed the Office Action mailed August 10, 2006 in the above-captioned patent application, German Patent Document 3,336,378 to Knauf, U.S. Patent No. 5,605,024 to Sucato, et al. ("Sucato"), U.S. Patent No. 5,913,788 to Herren ("Herren"), and U.S. Patent No. 5,527,625 to Bodnar (Bodnar).

3. The device and method claimed in the above-captioned application includes a formed metal sheet including a plurality of expanded web slots in a web region. The web region includes a plurality of reinforcements proximate to the web slots and confined to the web elements and exclusive to the web voids; each expanded web slot has a length to width ratio of 2:1 or greater; and the ratio of the distance between adjacent slots prior to expansion to a width of the formed metal sheet prior to expansion is 1:8 or greater. See e.g. claims 1, 27, 42, 53 and 54.

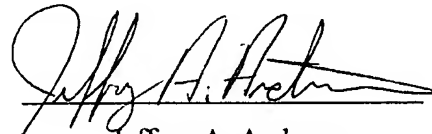
4. The combination of a plurality of reinforcements proximate to the web slots and confined to the web elements and exclusive to the web voids, each expanded web slot having a length to width ratio of 2:1 or greater, and the ratio of the distance between adjacent slots prior to expansion to a width of the formed metal sheet prior to expansion is 1:8 or greater are necessary to achieve the structure on the web that is not available when these features are not all present in combination.

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5. All statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Date: 11/9/06


Jeffrey A. Anderson